

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2979

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PINS, IN

SUBJECT: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT SECTION 32

-- POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: A. STATE 162899; B. NEW DELHI 8812

C. STATE 157740

1. I CONTINUE TO FEEL IT WOULD BE UNPRODUCTIVE TO RAISE THE MATTER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AT THIS TIME. FOR ONE THING, BY ANY REASONABLE STANDARD THERE ARE NONE IN INDIA. IT IS ONE OF THE ASPECTS OF MODERN LIFE THAT HAS SO FAR ESCAPED THIS COUNTRY WHICH CONTRARY TO REASON AND CUSTOM REMAINS A 19TH-CENTURY-PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY WITH A FREE PRESS AND AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY. THEY HAVE DROUGHTS, FLOODS, FAMINE, SMALLPOX, MALARIA, ELEPHANTIASIS AND PARANOIA. BUT THEIR JAILS ARE PRETTY MUCH EMPTY EXCEPT FOR MEMBERS OF ONE BRANCH COMMUNIST FACTION WHICH IS COMMITTED TO VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM AND GOES ABOUT SHOOTING COPS.

2. THE SECRETARY AND I HAVE A GOOD MANY COLLEAGUES ON THE HARVARD FACULTY WHO THINK THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR AID UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECTION 32X OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. PAT BUCHANAN

WILL NO DOUBT SOMEDAY AGREE WITH THEM(ANOTHER HISTORIC FIRST).
BUT FOR THE MOMENT I AM PREPARED TO STATE OUTRIGHT THAT INDIA
WOULD BE. MY PROBLEM IS THAT TO GO IN AND
WARN THEM ABOUT THIS CONGRESSIONAL PROVISION NOW WOULD
NOT ONLY BE OFFENSIVE TO THE INDIANS, BUT WOULD BE
TAKEN BY THEM AS A SIGN THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
IS IN FACT GOING TO PUT UP SOME AID MONEY FOR THIS
PLACE. HAVING SPOKEN WITH SOME 150 SENATORS AND
REPRESENTATIVES OVER THE PAST THREE WEEKS, I HAVE
GRAVE DOUBTS. WHEN AND IF CONGRESS AUTHORIZES THE
MONEY AND APPROPRIATES THE MONEY AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE BY SOME OVERSIGHT ACTUALLY DECIDES THAT INDIA
SHOULD GET SOME, THEN I SHALL GO IN AND ASK THE INDIANS
HOW THEIR TIGER CAGES ARE DOING.

3. ONE OF THE IRONIES OF LIFE IN THIS AGE OR TRANSITION
IS THAT HALF THE PROVISIONS IN THE STATUTE
BOOKS WHICH WITHHOLD AID ON POLITICAL
GROUNDS ARE OF THE COLD WAR VARIETY DIRECTED AGAINST
COMMIE BASTARDS, WHILE THE OTHER AND MORE RECENT VARIETY
ARE DIRECTED AGAINST FASCIST PIGS. THIS MAKES FOR
SCHIZOID REACTIONS IN YOUR FAR-FLUNG EMBASSIES. ANY
WAY, INDIA IS NEITHER COMMUNIST NOR FASCIST, IT IS
SIMPLY INDIA, A PLACE FOR WHICH REALLY NONE OF THESE
PROVISIONS MAKE SENSE.
MOYNIHAN

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